Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-06 CEA-01 SEC-01 /097 W

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R 171520Z JAN 78 FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 760

UNCLAS CARACAS 466

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EINV EFIN VE

SUBJECT: CVF TO AID FOREIGN INVESTORS

REF: CARACAS A181 DATED DEC 19, 1977

CORPORACION VENEZOLANA DE FOMENTO (CVF) HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL ASSIST FOREIGN FIRMS INFINDING A MARKET FOR COMPANY SHARES THEY MUST DISPOSE OF UNDER VENEZUELAN FOREIGN INVESTMENT LAWS. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, FOREIGN FIRMS ALREADY OPERATING IN CERTAIN AREAS NOW RESERVED FOR VENEZUELAN FIRMS (E.G. INTERNAL MARKETING OF GOODS) ARE OBLIGED TO REDUCE THEIR HOLDINGS TO 20 PERCENT THROUGH A "SELL DOWN" PROCESS. THE SALES ARE EXPECTED TO BE CONCENTRATED IN 1978. FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN HAVE COMPLAINED THAT THE SECURITIES MARKET HERE IS TOO THIN TO ABSORB SUDDEN LARGE OFFERINGS OF COMPANY STOCK, AND THAT FOREIGN INVESTORS THEREFORE MAY NOT RECEIVE A FAIR PRICE FOR THEIR HOLDINGS. THE GOV. THROUGH THE INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE CVF, HAS NOW UNDERTAKEN TO INSURE THAT FAIR VALUE IS RECEIVED FOR SHARES SOLD, IF NECESSARY THROUGH DIRECT PRUCHASES TO SUPPORT THE MARKET. CVF HAS NOT YET ANSWERED THE KEY QUESTION CONCERNING HOW THEY WLL ESTABLISH A SUPPORT PRICE FOR SHARES IN INVIDIDUAL UNCLASSIFIED

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COMPANIES. VAKY

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Message Attributes

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